

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### **Press Release**

### **City of Houston Bikeway Program**

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The Houston City Council approved the Accelerated Bikeway Program during their regular session on April 10, 2002. The Accelerated Bikeway Program accelerates the completion of the remaining Houston Bikeway Network projects, along with four new projects that were recently funded through the Texas Department of Transportation, for an early completion by December of 2003.

The Comprehensive Bikeway Plan was approved by City Council in 1993 and by last summer, over 200 miles of on-street and off-street bikeways had been completed. The Accelerated Bikeway Program will provide Houston with an additional 180 miles of linear parks with multi-use bayou trails, rails-to-trails, and trails on existing green space. Also included are connectors that will join segments to complete a city-wide network that spans from Clay Road to Old Galveston Road, Crosstimbers to Briar Forest and Richmond out to the Beltway.

“The Houston Bikeway Network is important to our quality of life. Many residents want transportation alternatives, and the Bikeway Network provides Houstonians the opportunity to travel to work or school, while also providing opportunities for recreation and fitness,” said Mayor Lee P. Brown. “The linear parks our trails provide offer beauty and respite within our neighborhoods. Some trails take advantage of the natural beauty of our bayous as well. The accelerated completion of the Bikeway Program will allow us to complete our goal to create these opportunities for our citizens. I invite you to explore our bikeways and reconnect with your community and neighbors.”

Bikeway Program projects are also an element of the State Implementation Plan to bring the region into air quality compliance.

Commuters and recreational cyclists who want to stay fit and travel as pedestrians or bicycle riders can use the bikeway network to get to many destinations within the city. Starting in May, the City of Houston will implement their plan to increase the number of bike racks at City parks, libraries, City Hall, and other public buildings for the convenience of bike riders. To promote the use of this new transportation network, a bikeway network map will be available through the Program’s website at [www.houstonbikeways.org](http://www.houstonbikeways.org), and through independent local bike shops starting on May 17, 2002.

For more information visit the Houston Bikeway Program website at [www.houstonbikeways.org](http://www.houstonbikeways.org) or call (713) 837-0003.